WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for determining connection information for a first port and a second port in a network, the first port including a first set of terminations and the second port including a second set of terminations, the method comprising:

5   determining information about the first and second set of terminations;

comparing the information about the first set of terminations with the information about the second set of terminations; and

determining whether the first port is connected to the second port based on the comparison.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining information about the first and second set of terminations comprises determining for the first and second set of terminations at least one of path label information, bandwidth information, and traffic description information.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein comparing the information about the first set of terminations with the information about the second set of terminations comprises comparing at least one of the path label information, the bandwidth information, and the traffic description information for the first set of terminations with a respective one of the path label information, the bandwidth information, and the traffic description information for the second set of 20   terminations.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining the information about the first and second set of terminations comprises retrieving the information from an information source.

5.	The method of claim 1, wherein the determining the information about the first and second set of terminations comprises retrieving the information from an element management system (EMS).

5	6.	A system for determining connection information for a first port and a second port in a network, the first port including a first set of terminations and the second port including a second set of terminations, comprising:

a memory including a program that

determines information about the first and second set of terminations,

10	compares the information about the first set of terminations with the information about the second set of terminations, and

determines whether the first port is connected to the second port based on the comparison; and

a processor that runs the program.

7.	The system of claim 6, wherein the network comprises a connection-oriented network.

8.	The system of claim 6, wherein the network comprises a connectionless network.

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9.	The system of claim 6, wherein the network comprises an asynchronous transport mode (ATM) network.

10.	The system of claim 6, wherein the network comprises a multi-protocol label switching (MPLS) network.

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11.   The system of claim 6, wherein the network comprises an Internet protocol (IP) network.

12.   The system of claim 6, wherein the first port is included on a first network

5   element and a second port is included on a second network element.

13.   The system of claim 12, wherein the first and second network elements comprise a switch.

10   14.   The system of claim 12, wherein the first and second network elements comprise a router.

15.   The system of claim 6, wherein the information about the first and second set of terminations comprises at least one of path label information, bandwidth information, and traffic description information for the first and second set of terminations.

16.   The system of claim 6, wherein the information about the first and second set of terminations is retrieved from an information source.

20   17.   The system of claim 16, wherein the information source comprises a management information base (MIB).

18.   The system of claim 16, wherein the information source comprises a database.

25   19.   A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a computer to perform a method for determining connection information for a first port and a second port in a

network, the first port including a first set of terminations and the second port including a second

set of terminations, the method comprising:

determining information about the first and second set of terminations;

comparing the information about the first set of terminations with the information about

the second set of terminations; and

determining whether the first port is connected to the second port based on the

comparison.

20.   The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein determining information

about the first and second set of terminations comprises determining for the first and second set

of terminations at least one of path label information, bandwidth information, and traffic

description information.